

**Appropriations Committee**  
**February 28, 2023**  
**Public Hearing on H.B. 6659 An Act Concerning the State Budget for the**  
**Biennium Ending June 30, 2025, and Making Appropriations Therefor.**

Good morning Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Berthel, Representative Nuccio and members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Lynn Chylinski and I live in Newington CT. I am testifying with the hope of impacting you and helping you to see why many of us are so passionate about supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. My older sister Christine was diagnosed with I/DD as a child. Our strong family values have led me to become an advocate in this area and have also led me to a career at Mosaic, a nonprofit agency in Cromwell, CT. I have been part of the Mosaic family for almost 34 years! We provide services to individuals with disabilities in a variety of settings including CLA's, one of which my sister Chrissy has lived in for almost 8 years!

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 6659, the Governor's Budget. I am here to request that you increase funding for community nonprofits during the biennium by 9% in FY24, the first year, and 7% in FY25, the second year.

My sister Christine shares her home in Portland with 4 other ladies and is very happy in her living situation. Unfortunately she has had to adjust to many staff changes. At Mosaic we continue to face an unprecedented workforce shortage. Despite holding as many new hire orientation days as possible we may only have a minimal amount of new hires every week which is devastating when we have so many open shifts. We have 50 openings to fill at this time. We are all looking for caring compassionate staff who will provide these crucial services for people with disabilities, like my sister and her housemates. At Mosaic we support over 200 individuals. They count on us, day in and day out.

The work that Mosaic does as a community nonprofit is very important. I can't imagine what our family and many other families would do if it were not for healthcare providers like Mosaic. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective on the budget. Please support increasing funding for community nonprofits by 9% in FY24 and 7% in FY25. This is necessary funding to ensure that my sister Chrissy continues to receive the critical/vital services she needs and that I and my family have come to rely on so heavily. Thank you so much for listening, I appreciate your time!